

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A device for purifying a target nucleic acid ~~molecule~~ from a test sample, ~~the device comprising at least one~~ a plurality of purification units, ~~the~~ each purification unit comprising:

- (a) a first region comprising a receptacle for receiving the test sample; and
- (b) a second region comprising an electrophoretic medium comprising at least one immobilized capture probe selected to hybridize to the target nucleic acid, wherein the capture probe is copolymerized to the electrophoretic medium; and
- (c) a third region comprising a collection chamber for receiving a molecule from the test sample from the second region, the second region comprising a first area interfaceable with the first region opposite from a second area of the second region interfaceable with the third region.

2 - 6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1 further comprising a pre-purification unit comprising:

- (a) a receptacle;
- (b) an electrophoretic medium; and
- (c) a collection chamber,

wherein[[,]] the electrophoretic medium separates the receptacle from the collection chamber.

8. (Currently amended) The device of Claim [[4,]]1 wherein the collection chamber comprises an exit orifice.

9. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 8[[,]] wherein the exit orifice comprises a semi-permeable membrane.

10. (Original) The device of Claim 1 comprising a plurality of identical capture probes.

11. (Original) The device of Claim 1 comprising a plurality of different capture probes.

12 - 17. (Canceled)

18. (Withdrawn) A method for purifying a target nucleic acid molecule from a test sample comprising the steps of:

- (a) introducing a test sample containing the target nucleic acid molecule into the receptacle of a unit of a purification device comprising:
 - (1) a receptacle; and
 - (2) an electrophoretic medium comprising at least one immobilized capture probe selected to hybridize to the target nucleic acid molecule; and
- (b) subjecting the electrophoretic medium to an electric field resulting in the migration of the test sample through the medium, under conditions suitable for the target molecule in the test sample to hybridize to the capture probe, thereby forming a target molecule/capture probe complex, and for the remaining components of the test sample to migrate through and elute from the medium.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18 further comprising the step of treating the electrophoretic medium to release the target molecule.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 19, wherein the target molecule is released from the electrophoretic medium by a treatment selected from the group consisting of raising the temperature of the electrophoretic medium to a temperature sufficient to denature the target molecule/capture probe complex, cleaving the chemical linkage which immobilizes the capture probes within the electrophoretic medium and increasing the electrophoretic field strength to a level sufficient to disrupt the target molecule/capture probe complex.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the process further comprises a step of amplifying the target molecule.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the process results in an increase in the concentration of the target molecule.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 25, wherein a plurality of target molecules are purified simultaneously.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 27, wherein the exit orifice comprises a semi-permeable membrane.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein purification and concentration of the target nucleic acid molecule occur in a single process step.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A kit for preparing a target nucleic acid in a test sample for use in nucleic acid sequencing applications, the kit comprising a device for purifying a target nucleic acid from a test sample, the device comprising ~~at least one~~ a plurality of purification units, the each purification unit comprising:

- (a) a first region comprising a receptacle for receiving the test sample; and
- (b) a second region comprising an electrophoretic medium comprising at least one immobilized capture probe selected to hybridize to the ~~preselected~~ target nucleic acid, wherein the capture probe is copolymerized to the electrophoretic medium; and
- (c) a third region comprising a collection chamber for receiving a molecule from the test sample from the second region, the second region comprising a first area interfaceable with the first region opposite from a second area of the second region interfaceable with the third region.

33 - 35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) The kit of Claim 32 further comprising a pre-purification unit comprising:

- (a) a receptacle;
- (b) an electrophoretic medium; and

(c) a collection chamber,
wherein[[,]] the electrophoretic medium separates the receptacle from the collection chamber.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the device comprises a microtiter plate and each purification unit comprises a microtiter well.